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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/804,688	03/19/2004	Brent L. Davis	BOC9-2003-0059 (1082-24U)	8175
46322 7590 11/16/2007 CAREY, RODRIGUEZ, GREENBERG & PAUL, LLP STEVEN M. GREENBERG 950 PENINSULA CORPORATE CIRCLE SUITE 3020 BOCA RATON, FL 33487				
			EXAMINER AZAD, ABUL K	
			ART UNIT 2626	PAPER NUMBER
			MAIL DATE 11/16/2007	DELIVERY MODE PAPER

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Office Action Summary	Application No. 10/804,688	Applicant(s) DAVIS ET AL.	
	Examiner ABUL K. AZAD	Art Unit 2626	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 04 September 2007.
- 2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-19 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-19 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

Response to Amendment

1. This action is in response to the communication filed on September 9, 2007.
2. Claims 1-19 are pending in this action. Claims 1, 9 and 12 have been amended.
3. The applicant's arguments with respect to claims 1-19 have been fully considered but they are not deemed to be persuasive. For examiner's response to the applicant's arguments or comments, see the detailed discussion in the Response to the Arguments section.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

4. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

5. Claims 1-19 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Wuppermann et al. (US 6,725,197).

As per claim 1, Wuppermann teaches, "a method for processing string input for a field in an interactive voice response (IVR) system", the method comprising the steps of:

"identifying a sub-string pattern of characters within acceptable input for the field which is known to enjoy a high likelihood of recognition, the sub-string pattern of

characters exclusively containing a sequence of characters appearing amongst all characters for the acceptable input for the field” (col. 5, line 38 to col. 6, line 6);

“prompting an interacting user for string input limited to said sub-string pattern” (col. 4, lines 28-34);

“matching received sub-string input conforming to said sub-string pattern with data which conforms to said acceptable input to locate the string input for the field and, completing the field with said matched data” (Abstract).

As per claim 2, Wuppermann teaches, “wherein said identifying step comprises the step of identifying a sub-string pattern of characters within acceptable input for the field which is known to enjoy both a high likelihood of recognition and a high level of uniqueness” (Abstract).

As per claim 3, Wuppermann teaches, “wherein said identifying step comprises the step of identifying a sub-string pattern of numeric, alphabetic and alphanumeric characters within acceptable input for the field which is known to enjoy a high likelihood of recognition” (col. 3, lines 1-15).

As per claim 4, Wuppermann teaches, “wherein said matching step comprises the step of querying a database for all records which have a specified field which contains said received sub-string input” (col. 2, line 34 to col. 3, line 15).

As per claim 5, Wuppermann teaches, “further comprising the step of pre-specifying which characters have a high likelihood of recognition” (Abstract).

As per claim 6, Wuppermann teaches, “further comprising the step of pre-specifying a likelihood of recognition value for each of said characters” (Abstract).

As per claim 7, Wuppermann teaches, "if said matching step produces a set of matching data, each data item in said set matching said sub-string input, disambiguating a desired data item from other data items in said set" (Abstract).

As per claim 8, Wuppermann teaches, "wherein said disambiguating step comprises the steps of: selecting an additional field for processing, additionally prompting said interacting user for additional input for said additional matching received additional input for said additional prompting with data which conforms to said acceptable input to locate the string input for the field" (col. 6, lines 19-54).

As per claims 9-19, they are interpreted and thus rejected for the same reasons set forth in the rejection of claims 1-8.

Response to Arguments

6. The applicant asserted, "as It will be recognized by reference to the bolded and underlined portions of the above citation, the result "AADAEM" is not a sub-set of the original utterance "AACHEN". To eliminate any possibility of continued confusion as to the meaning of the claimed word "sub-set", Applicants have amended claims 1, 9 and 12 to explicit state that the sub-string pattern of characters exclusively contains a sequence of characters appearing amongst all characters for the acceptable input for the field. In Wupperman, however, AADAEM does not exclusively contain a sequence of characters appearing amongst all characters in AACHEN and in fact only "AA" and "E" of AADAEM can be found in AACHEN".

7. The examiner respectfully disagrees with the applicant's above interpretation because Wupperman teaches claimed "sub-string" as "AA". The Wupperman's

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reference teaches, identifying a sub-string pattern ("AA") of characters within acceptable input ("AACHEN") for the field which is known to enjoy a high likelihood of recognition, the sub-string pattern of characters exclusively containing a sequence of characters ("AA") appearing amongst all characters ("AACHEN") for the acceptable input for the field" (col. 5, line 38 to col. 6, line 6). The applicant has misinterpreted the word "string" and "sub-string", here "acceptable input" is input string "AACHEN" and "identifying sub-string pattern" is "AA" of characters within acceptable input. Therefore, In Wupperman, AADAEM does exclusively contain a sequence of characters appearing amongst all characters in AACHEN and in fact only sub-string "AA" and "E" of AADAEM can be found in AACHEN" a sequence of characters.

Therefore, arguments are not deemed to be persuasive.

Conclusion

8. **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL.** Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the mailing date of this final action.

Contact Information

9. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to **Abul K. Azad** whose telephone number is **(571) 272-7599**. If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, **Patric Edouard**, can be reached at **(571) 272-7603**.

Any response to this action should be mailed to:

Commissioner for Patents

P.O. Box 1450


Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Or faxed to: **(571) 273-8300**.

Hand-delivered responses should be brought to **401 Dulany Street, Alexandria, VA-22314** (Customer Service Window).

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

November 13, 2007


Abul K. Azad
Primary Examiner
Art Unit 2626